

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 211425

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, IN, US

SUBJECT: JOINT COMMISSION

REF: (A) STATE 208692; (B) STATE 207588

1. IN REVIEW OF PROPOSED BILATERAL AGREEMENT (REFTEL A) IN LIGHT OF PL 92-463 (REFTEL B), DEPARTMENT NOW BELIEVES IT MOST APPROPRIATE TO ESTABLISH THREE SUBCOMMISSIONS. TWO, (A) ECONOMIC AND COMMERCIAL AND (B) SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL, WOULD BE ENTIRELY GOVERNMENTAL, WHILE THIRD, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL, WOULD BE MIXED PUBLIC/PRIVATE.

2. TO PROVIDE CONTACT BETWEEN US BUSINESSMEN AND GOI, WE ARE NOW LEANING TOWARD USG ENCOURAGEMENT FOR JOINT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE (WITHOUT USG REPRESENTATION), OUTSIDE JOINT COMMISSION FRAMEWORK. WE DO NOT SHARE EMBASSY'S VIEW (REF NEW DELHI 12659) THAT SUCH A PARALLEL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 STATE 211425

GROUP FOR PRIVATE BUSINESSMEN WOULD BE USELESS AND PERHAPS COUNTERPRODUCTIVE. JOINT CHAMBER APPROACH HAS BEEN FOLLOWED WITH SOVIETS AND SEEMS TO US ABOUT ONLY WAY GIVEN US LEGAL RESTRICTIONS THAT WE CAN PUT US BUSINESSMEN AND INDIAN OFFICIALS TOGETHER. IT IS LESS DESIRABLE, WE ADMIT, THAN MIXED SUBCOMMISSION BUT UNDER CIRCUMSTANCES THINK IT BEST COURSE AVAILABLE.

3. PRIVATE PARTICIPATION LESS CRUCIAL IN SCIENTIFIC FIELD SINCE NAS PROBABLY WILL BE ABLE TO BE REPRESENTED AS GOVERNMENTAL BODY. FURTHERMORE, WE STRONGLY DOUBT INDIANS WOULD FAVOR OPEN-ENDED PRIVATE PARTICIPATION UNDER PL 92-463 IN THIS SECTOR.

4. FYI: WE ARE STILL STUDYING POSSIBILITIES OF PRIVATE PARTICIPATION IN AD HOC STUDY GROUPS FOR THESE TWO SUBCOMMISSIONS BUT NO DECISIONS ON THIS REACHED YET AND WE NOT SURE WHETHER THIS APPROACH WILL PROVE FEASIBLE. END FYI.

5. WE BELIEVE THIRD SUBCOMMISSION, EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL, WOULD BE VIRTUALLY USELESS WITHOUT PRIVATE PARTICIPATION ON US SIDE. DEPARTMENT, THEREFORE, FAVORS MIXED PUBLIC-PRIVATE MEMBERSHIP FOR THIS SUBCOMMISSION, WHICH WOULD BE REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH PROVISIONS OF PL-92-463. DETAILS ON THESE PROVISIONS FOLLOW BY SEPARATE MESSAGE.

6. WE WILL BEGIN DISCUSSIONS WITH INDIANS ALONG THE ABOVE LINES. KISSINGER

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